



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, DC 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
7202.4-OS-2018-01678

November 30, 2018

Via email: [61793-42638296@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:61793-42638296@requests.muckrock.com)

Jimmy Tobias  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 61793  
411A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02144

Dear Mr. Tobias:

On, September 28, 2018, you filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request seeking the following:

Any and all written or electronic communications, including attachments, as well as records related to any meetings between Secretary of Interior Ryan Zinke (or his executive staff) and former Montana State Senator John Brenden. This request seeks documents produced between January 1, 2018, and the date this request is processed.

Your request was received in the Office of the Secretary FOIA office on September 28, 2018, and assigned control number **OS-2018-01678**. Please cite this number in any future communications with our office regarding your request.

We are writing to respond to your request on behalf of the Office of the Secretary. After a search reasonably calculated to uncover all relevant documents, it has been determined that the Office of the Secretary has no records responsive to your request.

Clarice Julka, Office of the Secretary FOIA Officer, is responsible for making this determination.

## Appeals

Under law, we are required to advise you of your appeal rights when informing you that we believe that we have no records responsive to your FOIA request. Therefore, if you have additional information (not provided in your request letter) that would lead you to believe that there are

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records in files maintained by the Office of the Secretary that were not located in our search for records responsive to your request, you may file a FOIA appeal by writing to the Department's FOIA Appeals Officer. The FOIA Appeals Officer must receive your FOIA appeal no later than 90 workdays from the date of this final letter responding to your FOIA request. Appeals arriving or delivered after 5 PM Eastern time, Monday through Friday, will be deemed received on the next workday. Your appeal must be in writing and addressed to:

Attn: FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of the Solicitor  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
MS6556 MIB  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Fax: 202-208-6677

E-mail: [FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov](mailto:FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov)

You must include with your appeal copies of all correspondence between you and the Office of the Secretary concerning your FOIA request, including a copy of your original FOIA request and the response letter. You must also include, in as much detail as possible, an explanation of why you believe the Office of the Secretary's response was in error. Failure to include this documentation with your appeal will result in the Department's rejection of your appeal, unless the FOIA/Privacy Act Officer determines (in her sole discretion) that good cause exists to accept the defective appeal. All communications concerning your appeal, including envelopes, should be clearly marked with the words "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." The appeal should include your name, mailing address, daytime telephone number (or the name and telephone number of an appropriate contact), email address, and fax number (if available) in case the Department needs additional information or clarification. For more information on FOIA administrative appeals, including how the Department will respond to your appeal, please refer to Subpart H of the Department's FOIA regulations, 43 C.F.R. § 2.57-§ 2.64.

If you have any questions about our response to your request, you may contact Cindy Sweeney by phone at 202-513-0765, by fax at 202-219-2374, by email at [osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov), or by mail at U.S.

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Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328, Washington, D.C. 20240.

You also may seek dispute resolution services from our FOIA Public Liaison, Clarice Julka.

Sincerely,

Clarice Julka  
Office of the Secretary  
FOIA Officer